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FLOOR DEBATE

March 25, 2002 LB 649

place for us to break and we will now at this point in time go over to the General File consent calendar. LB 649. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 649 by Senator Don Pederson. (Read title.) Introduced on January 16 of last year; referred to Urban Affairs; advanced to General File. I have no amendments to the bill at this time, Mr. President.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Pederson, you're recognized to open on the bill.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. LB 649 would clarify the governing body vote that is required to authorize the creation of a water extension district or a sanitary sewer extension district and to make it easier to understand the requirements that pertain to the district. Currently, Section 19-2402...Mr. Speaker, I'm having a little trouble hearing here.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Thank you. Currently, Section 19-2402 allows cities of the first and second classes and villages to extend municipal water services or sanitary services to territory beyond the existing system, which is done by adopting an ordinance to create these extension districts. In the absence of a specific requirement, an ordinance may normally be passed by a majority vote. Section 19-2403 requires a two-thirds vote by owners or the improvement cannot be made until at least three-fourths of the mayor and council or chairperson and the board of trustees vote to make the improvement. Having the three-fourths vote requirement in a different statute than the statute that provides for the creation of the district has caused some confusion in understanding the procedural requirements. In fact it has even become a matter of litigation in North Platte because they simply couldn't understand why this difference. LB 649 simply modernizes and rearranges Sections 19-2402 and Sections 19-2403 to clarify the intent of the existing statutes and to avoid misunderstanding. LB 649 is not intended to make any substantive change in the statute. It simply clarifies the